

15, 1987, as a general law city, and operates under a council-manager form of government. Five members are elected to the city council at large on a nonpartisan basis, with members serving overlapping terms.

Santa Clarita was founded by a group of community leaders who led the charge for a local based government where area residents could attend meetings in Santa Clarita. Their vision was for a city that embodied the best of each community while encouraging cutting edge commercial and retail industry to locate in Santa Clarita. Today, that vision is a reality as evidenced by a May 1997 Wall Street Journal article which named Santa Clarita as the west coast's fastest growing retail market.

As you can see, Mr. Speaker, Santa Clarita has accomplished much since its founding 10 years ago. Having been so fortunate to not only represent this wonderful community in Congress, but having served as both a city council member and mayor, I am proud to rise today and mark this special day in Santa Clarita's history. I join the residents of Santa Clarita, CA, in the pride we share for this wonderful city on its 10th anniversary.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE MINNEAPOLIS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY AND THE MINNEAPOLIS PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY

HON. MARTIN OLAV SABO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 5, 1997

Mr. SABO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Minneapolis Community Development Agency and the Minneapolis Public Housing Authority. These agencies are celebrating 50 years of exceptional service to the citizens and businesses of Minneapolis, MN.

The Minneapolis Housing and Redevelopment Authority [MHRA] was established on November 5, 1947, for the purpose of eliminating urban blight and developing low-cost housing for Minneapolis residents. The MHRA developed its first locally financed renewal project in 1950; built, owned, and managed its first public housing units in 1952; developed its first federally assisted project in 1955; and over the next three decades, built and managed nearly 8,000 units of public housing and implemented hundreds of redevelopment projects, providing affordable housing, commercial and industrial development sites.

In 1981, the MHRA merged with the Minneapolis Industrial Development Commission and the development division of the city coordinator's office to create the Minneapolis Community Development Agency [MCDA], a new streamlined agency to coordinate city development resources. In 1991, the Minneapolis Public Housing Authority [MPHA] separated from the MCDA, creating two independent agencies.

Mr. Speaker, the MCDA and the MPHA have made significant and lasting contributions to the quality of life in Minneapolis in the areas of housing, economic development, and the arts, and continue to forge new traditions in community building. These agencies have received numerous awards and recognitions of their outstanding achievements in the areas of housing and economic development, including

a 1971 award from the Department of Housing and Urban Development naming the MHRA the most outstanding urban renewal agency in the Nation, the first such award ever presented. Congratulations to these two agencies and best wishes for continued success in their efforts to make Minneapolis an outstanding city in which to live, work, and play.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN N. STURDIVANT

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 5, 1997

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, and distinguished colleagues, today I rise to acknowledge the work of John N. Sturdivant, president of the American Federation of Government Employees, who died October 28 after a long battle with leukemia.

I admired Mr. Sturdivant for his committed advocacy on behalf of the Federal worker. Having first-hand knowledge of how very difficult it can be at times to be an outspoken friend of the Federal worker, I rise to commend his convictions and integrity in championing the national service of the Federal employee.

All too often, hard working and dedicated Federal employees become the target of unfair treatment from both the Government and citizens they serve. Nevertheless, their work is essential and vital to our constituents. Mr. Sturdivant recognized their value to this country and thus dedicated his career to their advocacy.

Mr. Speaker, in closing I want to extend my sympathy and prayers to the family and friends of Mr. Sturdivant as we mourn the loss of this friend of the Federal worker.

CHARLES BLACK: A LIFETIME OF SERVICE

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 5, 1997

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to a truly outstanding individual, my constituent Charles Black. On November 6, Charlie's family and many friends and colleagues will honor him upon his retirement from General Public Utilities [GPU] after 32 years of service to the company. He has left an indelible mark upon Morris County, NJ, having devoted countless hours to helping make it one of America's finest places to live.

Charles Black was born in Quakertown, PA, in the fall of 1938. During his summers in between college semesters, Charlie worked various jobs, from employment as a button setter at a blouse factory to getting his first start at a power company in New Jersey. In 1960, perhaps the most important year of Charlie's life, he earned his bachelor of arts degree in business administration from Gettysburg College. That year, he also married the former Joyce Hoffmann, and then began his service with the U.S. Air Force.

Charlie Black's commitment to service started with his commitment to duty and honor with the U.S. Air Force. In fact, Charlie continues

to be active with the U.S. Air Force in the reserve program, as a liaison officer commander with the U.S. Air Force Academy, and as chairman of my own 11th Congressional District Academy Review Board for prospective nominees to our Nation's service academies.

Starting with Jersey Central Power & Light Co. in 1965, Charlie has served as GPU's director of communications since 1983. This position made him a visible figure in the community, as GPU serves approximately 2 million people in New Jersey and Pennsylvania, and facilitated the beginning of his long-standing service to his community. Over the last 15 years, it was a rare occasion for me to be at a charitable event in Morris County in which Charlie was not involved. He has always been there when called upon, and, although, much has been made this year on promoting volunteerism, it has been people like Charlie Black who have been a stalwart of our Nation's volunteer efforts throughout his life.

Over the years, Charlie Black's name has been synonymous with the County College of Morris Foundation, on which he served as a past president of the board of directors, so it comes as no surprise that the County College of Morris is regarded as one of the finest county colleges in the Nation. Charlie also served on the boards of directors of the Morris County United Way and the Dope Open Golf Tournament, offering a helping hand to those in need.

Although Charlie has been active on behalf of many wonderful organizations, he has been invaluable to me in his commitment to promoting and preserving the important mission at the Army Armament Research, Development and Engineering Center at Picatinny Arsenal which employs 4,000 people in New Jersey. When Picatinny was listed on a preliminary list for closure during the 1995 base realignment and closure process, I looked to Charlie to be a leader on my Picatinny Working Group which was a key element in recognizing the arsenal's importance to the region's economy, the identities of surrounding communities and promoting the incredible "smart" weapons being developed by Picatinny's engineers. Charlie was also a founding member of the Picatinny defense fund, and served as the organization's vice president. His work in getting the Picatinny defense fund established ensures that Picatinny Arsenal's mission will continue to be well defended in the future.

Just this past May, Charlie's commitment to Picatinny and the U.S. Air Force intertwined when he worked along with Mary Mulholland, as he so often did, to plan a luncheon honoring Secretary of the Air Force Sheila Widnall after she toured Picatinny Arsenal. Needless to say, Charlie and Mary's luncheon for Secretary Widnall was a remarkable success. Unfortunately, Charlie could not attend the luncheon because he was wearing one of his many hats and had to deliver a speech for GPU in New Orleans.

Mr. Speaker, shortly, Charlie and his wife Joyce Black will be moving to Arizona to enjoy life in retirement. But anyone who knows Charlie knows that he won't be at rest for too long—he will be contributing to the enrichment of his new community in no time. I only hope that the State of Arizona knows what an exemplary citizen they are gaining. Good luck Charlie and Joyce.